

FACT SHEET



Hastings Ground Water Contamination Site South Landfill Subsite Hastings, Nebraska

February 2001

This fact sheet presents an update on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Superfund activities at the South Landfill Subsite in Hastings, Nebraska.

INTRODUCTION

The EPA has signed a Record of Decision (ROD) for the South Landfill Subsite of the Hastings Ground Water Contamination Site in Hastings, Nebraska. The ROD, which was signed September 30, 2000, is the formal decision document which describes the remedy selected for a site. The remedial actions identified in the ROD address both source control (soil) and ground water. The decision was made by the EPA, in coordination with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), after receiving public comments in August 2000. The actions defined have been selected, in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (also known as Superfund), for the purpose of protecting human health and the environment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SELECTED REMEDY

Surface Water Controls and Landfill Cover:

- Surface areas will be regraded to provide controlled drainage to an on-site drainage way;
- A geosynthetic clay liner (GCL) cap will be installed over the landfill to minimize infiltration of surface water and reduce contaminant migration;
- As an alternative to the GCL cap, an alternative cover may be installed in accordance with landfill cover performance standards, as set forth in state regulations and the Feasibility Study remedy selection criteria.

Institutional Controls:

- A fence will be installed to control site access;
- Deed restrictions will be imposed to restrict land use;
- Ground water monitoring will be conducted at the boundary of the South Landfill to assess surface cap effectiveness.

Ground Water Use Restrictions and Natural Attenuation:

- Ground water use restrictions will be put in place to restrict the installation of wells for drinking water purposes in areas suspected of ground water contamination; and
- Ground water monitoring will be conducted to determine the effectiveness and dynamics of natural attenuation processes and to ensure that cleanup goals can be achieved in the 20-year project time frame.

SITE BACKGROUND

The Hastings Ground Water Contamination Site in Hastings, Nebraska consists of an aquifer contaminated with hazardous substances, as well as contaminated soils that overlie the aquifer. The Hastings South Landfill is one of seven subsites which make up the Hastings Ground Water Contamination Site. The site was divided into seven subsites based on the various sources of contamination.

The South Landfill Subsite is approximately 58 acres and is located southeast of the central business district of Hastings. The subsite is bounded by the abandoned Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way tracks on the south, the Good Samaritan Village retirement complex on the north, farmland on the east, and U.S. Highway 6 on the west.

The site was originally a clay pit. Operations ceased in the 1950s, and the pit was abandoned. The property was later operated as a municipal landfill by the City of Hastings from the early 1960s to the early 1980s, and accepted both municipal and industrial waste.

Investigations performed by EPA contractors, beginning in the 1980s, identified potential impacts to ground water at the subsite. EPA has since conducted a number of studies of the area and installed monitoring wells within the boundaries of the South Landfill Subsite. EPA's investigations have determined that wastes buried in the South Landfill have contaminated the ground water beneath and down gradient of the subsite.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The South Landfill ROD, as well as other supporting site documents (known as the Administrative Record File) is available for public review during business hours at the Hastings Public Library and at the Region 7 office in Kansas City, Kansas.

If you have questions about the ROD or any other site documents, you may call or write to:

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